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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

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## DIGEST

Nevers (SB 538)

Present law requires the Board of Regents (BoR) to formulate and establish geographic regions of the state in order to maximize the use of the instructional and physical resources of existing state and regionally accredited independent postsecondary educational institutions to provide broad access to education and training services. Further provides that there must be at least one public institution of higher education which awards baccalaureate degrees in each region established by the board.

Proposed law retains these provisions.

Present law requires the BoR to evaluate the instructional and physical resources of existing postsecondary education institutions with each region before recommending the creation of any new postsecondary institution within a region. Allows the board to provide for the use of resources from outside of a region before recommending the creation of a new postsecondary institution within a region.

Proposed law retains these provisions.

Proposed law provides that the BoR shall also use such evaluation of the instructional and physical resources of existing postsecondary education institutions within each region to create efficiencies, increase student access, enhance academic quality, further the goals established by the master plan for postsecondary education, and for any other purpose that will serve to advance postsecondary education in each region and the state as a whole.

Proposed law further provides that, with the exception of those matters enumerated in the state constitution that require legislative approval, the BoR shall adopt such policies and take such actions as deemed appropriate and necessary to maximize the use of all resources available to support and promote postsecondary education in the state.

Present law provides that the BoR, in cooperation with each higher education management board, the chancellor, and the president of each public institution of higher education, shall devise, describe, and establish a mission for each public university system and institution which shall be included in the master plan for postsecondary education.

Proposed law retains these provisions but specifies that the BoR shall carry out the duties prescribed in present law "after consultation with" the postsecondary management boards instead of "in cooperation with" said boards.

Present law provides that all powers of management over public institutions of higher education

not specifically vested in the BoR by the state constitution are reserved to the respective postsecondary education management boards, as to the institutions under the control of each.

Proposed law retains present law and makes a technical wording change.

Present law provides that all constitutional responsibilities of the BoR, including the development of a formula for equitable distribution of funds, shall apply to all public postsecondary institutions, including vocational-technical schools.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the provisions of the master plan for postsecondary education and any other board policy that is part of a statewide plan or has statewide application also apply to all public postsecondary institutions.

Present law provides that subject only to the powers of the BoR specifically enumerated in the state constitution and as otherwise provided by law, each postsecondary system management board, as a body corporate, shall have authority to exercise power necessary to supervise and manage the postsecondary institutions under its control.

Proposed law retains present law but specifies that the supervision and management powers of the postsecondary education management boards are applicable to the "day-to-day operations" of institutions under their control.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3126(D)(2), 3128(A) and (B)(1), 3130(A) and (B)(1)(a), and 3351(A)(intro para))